

THE SHELTON CHRONICLE



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SETTING THE PACE FOR TOMORROW NEW TIME. NEW WORLD. NEW SHELTON.

Official dedication week activities are
October 20 - 26.

Shelton's dedication week activities will kick off with an official ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, October 20, at 9 a.m. in the atrium area of the campus. City and county officials along with the local legislative delegation will join faculty, staff, and administration for the opening event.

SHELTON STATE'S FINE ARTS DIVISION SETS PACE FOR THE COLLEGE

Shelton recently named Junior College of
the Fine Arts for Alabama

It was not by chance that the Alabama legislature passed a resolution this past spring naming Shelton State Community College the "Junior College of the Fine Arts for the State of Alabama." Through the years, the college's Fine Arts Division has distinguished itself in the West Alabama area. Many graduates of

these programs have gone on to careers in the arts. For others, the quality of their lives improved through Shelton's programs.

Shelton State's music facility includes a choral rehearsal hall, band room, lecture room, three teaching studios, practice rooms and a new state-of-the-art piano lab with instruments furnished by Southeastern Music Company and Yamaha Corporation. Weekly concerts are held in the recital hall located within the theatre complex.

Four major performing groups compose the music department: the Shelton Singers, Brass Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and the Bach to Rock group. All four musical groups will perform during the dedication week activities along with individual students and instructors.

The Shelton Singers will perform in the atrium during the dedication ceremonies on Wednesday, October 22, and from 9-9:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 23. The Brass Ensemble will play the prelude and postlude during the official dedication ceremonies on Wednesday, October 22. The Jazz Ensemble will perform at 1 p.m. in the recital hall on Tuesday, October 21, as part of the dedication week activities.

The Bach to Rock Ensemble is a 15-member vocalist group that entertains elementary school-aged children. As part of the Arts Council's SPECTRA program, the ensemble demonstrates that art and popular music are not mutually exclusive. During the dedication week activities, the Bach to Rock group will perform in the atrium from 10:15-11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, October 21.

On Tuesday, October 21, students from Shelton's department of dance will perform in the atrium from 4-8 p.m. as part of the week's activities. Under the direction of Louise

Crofton, the department offers a wide range of classes for children and adults. College-level courses are offered for credit and non-credit.

A new college-level class, contemporary dance, will be offered this Spring for actors and others interested in public speaking and will include ballroom, musical theatre, folk dancing, and historical dance. College ballet classes are offered at the intermediate and advanced levels. Classes are also offered for students who are not majoring in dance.

Shelton's art department is located in the Fine Arts wing across from the entrance to the new theatre. Currently, there is an exhibit by Matthew Albritton of black and white photographs that will remain through the official dedication ceremonies.

The art department offers classes in drawing, painting, photography, composition, art history and art for teachers. Krist Lien is Shelton's art instructor.

Shelton State's theater department is one of the most visible fine arts department on campus. Each year courses are offered in theatre appreciation, acting techniques, theatrical make-up, stage craft, stage movement, and theatre workshop. Students at Shelton State gain valuable experience working with local theatre productions, such as those produced by Theatre Tuscaloosa.

Paul Looney, theater instructor for the college and executive producer of Theatre Tuscaloosa, serves as the key link in the relationship between the community theater and the college. In 1980, Shelton State established a relationship with Theatre Tuscaloosa that is a model of cooperation between "town and gown."

This Spring, Theatre Tuscaloosa will leave

the Bama Theatre which has been its home over the past years as the organization moves to its location on the college's new campus. Located in the Fine Arts center, the new theater area will house all of Theatre Tuscaloosa's operations, such as offices, rehearsal halls, and shops. The new theatre will seat almost 500 people.

SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE RETIREES RECEIVE SPECIAL BRICKS FROM ORIGINAL COLLEGE CAMPUS

They are just ordinary bricks - 60 of them altogether. Yet, they represent a great deal in the lives of the former employees of Shelton State Community College.

As part of the grand opening activities Shelton State Community College has scheduled this month, 60 former employees of the college will receive invitations to attend a reception in their honor that will be held on the new campus. All retirees who worked for the college from the time Shelton first opened its doors in 1953 until 1997 will receive a brick taken from the original Shelton State campus located on 15th Street.

Heading up the committee planning the event is office administration instructor Lyda Black, along with Wayne Singley, director of operations and maintenance, and Judy Holland, secretary to the dean of technical services. However, the unsung heroes of the project are Shelton's maintenance staff who literally hammered and chiseled the bricks apart from the old building.

After separating the bricks from the old Fifteenth Street Campus, Shelton's maintenance staff loaded them on a truck and brought them to the new campus. Here they removed the old mortar with a wire brush and chisel. Next, the bricks were cleaned in order

to remove dirt remaining from the 44-year-old building.

After cleaning, the bricks were air dried and then moved to the college's machine tool technology department. Under the watchful eye of instructor Steve Fair, the students stenciled the lettering, "SSCC," along with the name of the campus where each retiree spent most of their time while employed by the college. Wallace Lancaster and Shelton's cabinet shop then put a final coat of polyurethane on the bricks.

The finished bricks will be tied with gold ribbon and presented by Shelton State President Tom Umphrey at the reception scheduled for Tuesday, October 21, at 2:30 p.m. in the travel and tourism department of the college.

THE MOTHER SHIP HAS LANDED

While planning activities for Shelton State's grand opening, President Tom Umphrey wanted to be sure and include not only faculty, staff and alumni in the events but other community groups who might be connected with the college as well. One of the most important relationships the college has with the community is Shelton State's Adopt-A-School partner, Vestavia Elementary School.

Utilizing the college's three-story atrium located in the center of the college, the committee planning the events for the week thought a paper airplane contest would be a unique and fun experience for the children. Rick Shelton, director of recruitment for the college and Shelton's Adopt-A-School program coordinator, organized the paper airplane contest for the children.

Twenty-five fifth and sixth grade students from Vestavia Elementary will arrive on

Shelton's new campus at 1 p.m. on Monday, October 20. After a tour of the campus, the students will travel to the third floor of the atrium where the official paper airplane launching will be held.

The planes landing closest to the target on the first floor will be named the winners of the contest. The faculty, staff, and students of the college decided this event sounded like so much fun they wanted to have their own paper airplane competition. At 2:35 p.m. on the same day, October 20, college instructors, administrators, students and staff will launch their own paper airplanes from the third floor of the atrium.

Prizes will be awarded to all the winners.

SHELTON STATE OFFICIALLY DEDICATES NEW COLLEGE

Alabama Lieutenant Governor Don Siegleman and state finance director Jimmy Baker will lead the list of dignitaries who will be on hand for the official dedication of Shelton State Community College's new campus. The program is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, in the atrium area of the college.

The ceremony will begin with a welcome by Sandra Hall Ray, Alabama State Board of Education, District VII. In addition to Lieutenant Governor Siegleman, other state officials scheduled to speak during the event are Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor, Alabama College System and Jimmy Butts, director of Alabama's department of transportation.

Roland Pugh, an alumnus of the college and a member of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, and Lyda Black, Louise Lewis, and Tommy Taylor, representatives of Shelton's faculty and staff, are also scheduled to speak. Also on the program are Alabama State Senators Phil Poole and Charles Steele.

However, the highlight of the morning's activities will be the address by Shelton State President Tom Umphrey. Addressing what may be the largest crowd to ever attend an event at Shelton State, Umphrey will talk about the history of Shelton State Community College and his vision for the future of the institution.

SHELTON STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PLANS BAND, FOOD AND BONFIRE EVENT

Shelton State's grand opening activities offers a number of opportunities for the West Alabama community to become involved with the college.

"That's why we've scheduled the activities we have during the week," Shelton President Tom Umphrey said. "The bonfire sponsored by the Shelton State Alumni Association on Monday evening, October 20, is a perfect example. We felt like the athletic events leading up to the bonfire and the bonfire itself would be a wonderful opportunity for our students and faculty as well as people from the community to come out, show their support for the college, and have a great evening with family-style entertainment."

The evening will kick off at 5:30 p.m. with short scrimmage games by the men and women's basketball teams. Shelton State athletes in basketball, baseball, soccer, softball, and golf will be introduced. In addition, Shelton's golf team will receive a commendation from the Alabama College System for winning a national championship among community colleges in the United States. The college's Scholar Bowl team will also be recognized with a commendation by the Alabama College System for winning the state championship.

At 6:30 p.m. activities move outside the gymnasium for the bonfire. Cheerleaders, alumni association officers, and college administrators will lead the festivities which include music from the band "Fuzzy Navel" and food. At 7 p.m. officials will light the bonfire as the college's initial day of grand opening activities comes to a close.

Monday night activities will be held in the gymnasium located at the west entrance of the college. The bonfire will be held outdoors in the area located behind the gymnasium.

The Shelton State Alumni Association was formed in 1995 and is open to anyone who has ever attended the college as well as current students and friends of the college. Jackie Fazeli currently serves as president of the Alumni Association.

CONGRATULATIONS to Rick Shelton and the college recruiters for all their hard work this past year. A new recruiting plan was implemented during the Spring of 1996. This plan called for an increase in the number and consistency of visits by recruiters to high schools in our area. This strategy had a huge impact on the number of first-time students enrolling at Shelton State. According to reports, there was a 22.5% increase from Fall 1995 to Fall 1996. In addition, there was a 30% increase, during the same period, in first-time full-time students.
